

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE
Week ending the 8th December 1883.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	653	
2	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto ...	474	
3	"Tripurá Vártávaha"	Comillah ...	.....
4	"Prem Pracháriní"	Nawabgunge, Barrack-pore.	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
5	"Alok"	Calcutta ...	.....
6	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Ditto ...	700	3rd December 1883.
7	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	150	30th November 1883.
8	"Bangabási"	Ditto ...	8,500	1st December 1883.
9	"Bártábaha"	Pubna ...	.....
10	"Bhárat Bandhu"	Calcutta ...	.....
11	"Bhárat Hitaishí"	Burrisal ...	450	
12	"Bhárat Mihir"	Mymensingh ...	713	27th November 1883.
13	"Bardwán Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	282	4th December 1883.
14	"Cháruvártá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	529	
15	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca ...	526	2nd ditto.
16	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	745	30th November 1883.
17	"Grámvártá Prakashiká"	Comercolly ...	267	1st December 1883.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI—concluded.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
18	"Halisahar Prakashiká"	Calcutta	.....	1st December 1883.
19	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	
20	"Játiya Suhrid"	Calcutta	700	26th November 1883.
21	"Medini"	Midnapore	.....	29th ditto.
22	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Berhampore	418	
23	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto	.....
24	"Navavibhakar"	Calcutta	850	3rd December 1883.
25	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	421	25th November 1883.
26	"Prájá Bandhu"	Chandernagore	287	4th December 1883.
27	"Pratikár"	Berhampore	275	30th November 1883.
28	"Rajshahye Samvád"	Beauleah	.....
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakash"	Kakiniá, Rungpore	220	29th ditto.
30	"Sádharani"	Chinsurah	500	2nd December 1883.
31	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	500	28th November & 5th December 1883.
32	"Samaya"	Ditto	.....	3rd December 1883.
33	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	.....	1st ditto.
34	"Saraswat Patra"	Dacca	.....
35	"Shakti"	Calcutta	.....	29th November & 6th December 1883.
36	"Som Prakash"	Changripottá, 24-Perghs.	.....	3rd December 1883.
37	"Sulabha Samachar"	Calcutta	3,000	1st ditto.
38	"Surabhi"	Deoghur	.....	3rd ditto.
39	"Udbodhan"	Calcutta	.....
<i>Daily.</i>				
40	"Dainik Vartá"	Hoogli	.....
41	"Samvad Prabhakar"	Calcutta	250	28th November to 4th December 1883.
42	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	30th ditto to 6th ditto.
43	"Samachar Chandriká"	Ditto	625	29th ditto to 5th ditto.
44	"Banga Vidyá Prakashiká"	Ditto	500	
45	"Prabháti"	Ditto	500	30th ditto to 6th ditto.
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	365	1st December 1883.
HINDI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore	.....	29th November 1883.
48	"Bharat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	29th ditto.
49	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto	500	3rd December 1883.
50	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto	.....	24th November & 1st December 1883.
51	"Hindi Samachar"	Bhagulpore	.....
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
52	"Jám-Jahan-numá"	Calcutta	250	
URDU.				
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
53	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta	.....	28th November & 1st December 1883.
54	"Amir-ul-Akbar"	Ditto	.....	3rd December 1883.
55	"Jarida-i-numaish"	Ditto	.....	29th November & 3rd December 1883.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
56	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar	.....
URIYA.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
57	"Utkal Dipiká"	Cuttack	188	
58	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore	200	18th November 1883.
59	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Ditto	92	22nd ditto.
60	"Purusottam Patriká"	Pooree	330	19th ditto.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
61	"Kshatriya Patriká"	Patna	400	

POLITICAL.

THE *Sahachar*, of the 28th November, asks the question whether Egypt will become a burden to England.

SAHACHAR,
Nov. 28th 1883.

The Egyptian question. Mr. Bright was averse to England's interfering in the Egyptian war. He said it would be a mistake to shed English blood and spend English money for the sake of the Khedive. He resigned because the Ministry did not agree with him. But recent events have proved that the English people will have to engage in war after war on the frontiers of Egypt to keep up their prestige. The followers of Mehdi are not to be trifled with; one of the slave-dealers amongst them prepared shot by melting 50,000 silver coins. A war with men of this description will not easily come to an end, especially when the followers of Arabi are incensed with rage. They are sure to make a grand effort; they know all the weak points of the administration.

2. The *Somprakash*, of the 3rd December, says that in the case of a war between France and China, England and Russia will take part with China, and the French are sure to be defeated. China supplies England with a large revenue, and England does its best to protect her interests. The French are not on good terms with the English, who interfered in Egyptian affairs without the co-operation of France, and who did not interfere in the Franco-Prussian war, but merely witnessed the fun. If the English support the Chinese, the French cannot gain the day. Never did the French come out with credit in a war with the English.

SOM PRAKASH,
Dec. 3rd, 1883.

3. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 3rd December, thus concludes an article headed "Madagascar and China":—
Madagascar and China. England will have to remain careful on two sides on account of France. If French possessions increase in Madagascar, a French outpost will be established at the western gate of India, while, if French possessions increase in the Eastern Peninsula, a similar outpost will be established at the eastern gate. Will the British Lion see without anxiety two French outposts established on his two sides? All English statesmen are not so peace-loving as John Bright. India has learnt a lesson from bitter experience. Egypt has once given a lesson; possibly it will again give one. And who knows that Madagascar and Annam will not? If anywhere the English should measure their strength with the French, India will then have to assist with blood and treasure, and, however unwilling, will have to bear another's burden. We are really seized with grave apprehensions.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Dec. 3rd, 1883.

4. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 3rd December, remarks that the opponents of the Ilbert Bill will but injure their cause if they counsel the abandonment of that measure by pointing out the moral of General Hick's defeat in the Soudan. The General was defeated merely through the weight of numbers, unless Europeans occupy a much higher position than natives, the same thing, it may be urged, may take place in India, where the native population is vastly larger than the Europeans. But if General Hick's defeat teaches anything, it teaches that India cannot for ever be governed at the point of the bayonet.

ANANDA BAZAR,
PATRIKA.
Dec. 3rd, 1883.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

5. The *Bharat Mihir*, of the 27th November, says that from the time the English merchants obtained possession of India, the English have been the rulers of the country. The monarch of England is the monarch of India. But who is the real ruler? There is but one answer to this question—the white civilian. According to the statement of Colonel Osborn, these

BHARAT MIHIR,
Nov. 27th, 1883.

civilians, when they return to England, cannot shine in any public movement in that country, so corrupted do they become by living in a dependency. But in this country they are all in all. They are omniscient; otherwise why should a civilian be placed at the head of the Agricultural Department, and a passed student of the Agricultural College be made a native civilian? Another phase of the civilian character is ungratefulness. They cannot do without the horses and carriages of the zemindars; they have no house to live in until the zemindar supplies them with one; but on the slightest pretence they abuse these very zemindars in their administration reports.

BHARAT MIHIE,
Nov. 27th, 1883.

6. The same paper remarks that it is a great misfortune that it is a vernacular paper. The Government has not thought fit to send the report of the Education Commission to the vernacular papers; neither can they get it for money. The matter is so weighty that it should be carefully scrutinized. But the Government will not show the same favour to vernacular papers as it has shown to English papers.

The Report of the Education Commission.

BHARAT MIHIE.

7. The same paper asks the zemindars whether they would like to be known as belonging to the same class as Mr. Keswick and the Barristers. They may get many supporters in England by this means, but natives do not like these proceedings. It is neither for their nor for the country's good that they should become an exclusive class. The writer admits that there are many defects in the draft Tenancy Bill. But no sane man will venture to support the zemindars if they behave in the way they are doing at present. The political progress of England depends upon the rivalries of the Conservatives and the Liberals; that of India on the liberal principles of its people. The Government in this country is against the people. Party spirit in such a country will stand in the way of all progress. So the conservatism displayed by the zemindars is not for the good of the people.

The House of Lords in Bengal.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
Nov. 28th, 1883.

8. The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 28th November, hears many complaints against the clerk of the college, Baboo Benode Vihari Sen, who, it is reported, does not treat the students well. He often fines students, and passes his orders even on some of the teachers.

Rájshahye College.

HINDU RANJIKÁ.

9. The same paper remarks that the short-service system which obtains in the European Army in India is very expensive. Under this system the Government has to bear the expenses of their passage home, and of the passage to India of the new-comers. This is unjust. Under this system the Government can entertain only 50,000 troops at an expense of 12 crores of rupees, while Germany and France maintain 12 lakhs of troops at a cost of 17 crores. What an enormous cost has India to bear compared with Germany or France! The writer recommends a return to the system which prevailed during the time of the East India Company.

The Military Department.

SAHACHAR,
Nov. 28th, 1883.

10. The *Sahachar*, of the 28th November, says:—The *Englishman* wants to make the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal either a Czar of Russia or a Sultan of Turkey. Just as no one has any right to criticise the acts of the Czar or of the Sultan, and any protest against such acts are regarded as synonymous with a crime; so if any native paper says anything against any public measure of Mr. Rivers Thompson, it is regarded as a crime. This day's issue of the *Englishman* has an article on the subject. The editor of the *Englishman*, after quoting small bits out of the independent criticisms of a few vernacular papers on the Lieutenant-Governor, says that the tone of the vernacular papers in general is very bad and reprehensible, and that steps should be taken on the subject. We can forbear laughing at these things in the columns of the *Englishman*. There is no

The *Englishman* newspaper.

doubt that the utterances of a man who vilified Lord Ripon to his heart's content, who wishes ill to the empire of Her Majesty, and to whom the Bengalis are an eyesore, are simply contemptible. Abuses such as the *Englishman* showers upon everyone, outstepping the limits of decency, have never been published in any native newspaper. Everyone knows that the *Englishman* is a great enemy of the natives, and it is therefore that they hate it so much. We are well aware that it is for this reason most Bengalis have given up the *Englishman* with a feeling of detestation. We hope the authorities will not lend their ear to what the *Englishman* says."

11. The *Sambad Prabhakar*, of the 28th November, finds fault with the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, inasmuch as he does not even mention the names

The Census Report.

of the zemindars, of the educated native gentlemen who have co-operated with the Government in the census work, and of the Deputy Magistrates who have laboured hard. All these gentlemen deserved His Honor's thanks. Mr. Bourdillon, Mr. Chequer, and the Magistrates of the district, are the only persons favourably mentioned. The only native gentleman who has the good fortune to be praised is Baboo Kumud Nath Mukerji of the Katak office.

SAMBAD PRABHAKAR
Nov. 28th, 1883.

12. The *Shakti*, of the 29th November, says that a certain zemindar of Sherpur levies an illegal cess for entertaining the Europeans of the station. The writer

The zemindars of Sherpur.

does not blame the zemindar for it. Why should he pay for the entertainment? The raiyats can bear everything; they should bear this also. With all these things before their eyes, men could still be found to support the zemindars. Their selfishness and their perseverance are indeed admirable.

SHAKTI,
Nov. 29th, 1883.

13. The *Rungpur Dikprakash*, of the 29th November, says that the enumeration of the good qualities of Lord Ripon is beyond the power of the pen. The

Lord Ripon.

Civil Service was practically closed to the natives of this country. He is endeavouring to have it opened again, by raising the standard of age to 24 years. It is a matter of regret that it is not within his power. He will have to depend on the authorities in England.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
Nov. 29th, 1883.

14. The *Paridarshak*, of the 25th November, approves of the nomination of Baboo Ambica Charan Sen of the Cirencester College to the Native Civil Service, and remarks

Baboo Ambica Charan Sen.

that if such men are employed in these responsible posts, it will go a great way to remove the notion that the Government, in filling up these appointments, will not take the educational qualification of the candidates into consideration.

PARIDARSHAK,
Nov. 25th, 1883.

15. The same paper condemns the action of Baboo Rajmohan De, the Extra Assistant Commissioner of Sylhet, in connection with his election as Chairman of

Self-government in Sylhet.

the North Sylhet Board.

PARIDARSHAK.

16. The *Medini*, of the 29th November, says that many Englishmen think that India is conquered by the English, and that the ascendancy of Englishmen over

Was India conquered by the English?

natives should be preserved if they want to live in India.

MEDINI,
Nov. 29th, 1883.

The writer asserts that in whatsoever manner the English may have obtained the possession of India, it is certain that English rule in India is for the good of the people, and that the people are not dissatisfied with the rule. And it can also be safely asserted that if the English can gain the affection of the people, if they honestly satisfy their hopes and aspirations, their Government will last for a very long period.

Foolish Englishmen think they conquered India in the battle of Plassey. Whether they went to the battle as heroes or as cunning jackals, in a treacherous and cowardly manner, is known to

readers of history who are also perfectly aware how many of the kingdoms which now constitute the British Empire were the rewards of valour, and how many of them were gained by hypocrisy and treachery and cunning. Those, again, which were conquered, were conquered with the assistance of the *Sipahi*. The British administration in India, again, rests on the consent of the people. Nothing can be more foolish than to think otherwise. The Englishmen in India are but a handful of men. Though disarmed, still the two hundred and fifty millions of its people are more than a match for them. As long as the Indians are the supporters of the English Government in India, the hostility of Anglo-Indians, however numerous, will not be able to injure it.

The Sepoy war is fresh in the minds of men. The whole of India was not hostile to the English. It was only a few of the Sepoys that mutinied, and a few common people joined them. But that has proved the valour of the Anglo-Indians. If the Native Princes had not supported the Government, God alone knows what help the Anglo-Indians would have rendered to it. It should also be remembered that the Russian Bear lies with its mouth open towards Anglo-India.

Fortunately, the class of Englishmen to whom the above is addressed is very limited, even in India, and in proportion to the nobler class of Englishmen, they are but few in number. Had the case been otherwise, the Empire would long since have slipped from the hands of the English.

MEDINI,
Nov. 29th, 1883.

17. The same paper hears that Buzlal Karim, the Deputy Magistrate of Ghatal, has asked the permission of higher authorities to bring a case against it. The writer challenges the Deputy Magistrate to do so, and not to be backward. The charges brought against him will all be proved on enquiry. The writer is confident he will be able to prove them.

PRABHATI,
Dec. 1st, 1883.

18. The *Prabhati*, of the 1st December, approves the nomination, as announced in the *Samay*, of Babu Raj Kissore Mukerji, as a representative of the raiyats in the Indian Legislative Council. The writer has no doubt that Babu Raj Kissore is the fittest man for the appointment. If any one has laboured in the cause of the raiyat, without any fuss and noise, it is Babu Raj Kissore. He is never backward in spending money from his own pocket for the interest of the raiyat.

PRABHATI.

19. The same paper is glad to learn that Baboo Krishna Vihari Sen, M.A., the Editor of the *Liberal*, and Rector of Albert College, has been appointed a non-official member of the outstill Commission. Baboo Krishna Vihari will be a great help to the Commission.

SAMVAD PURNACHANDRODAYA,
Dec. 1st, 1883.

20. The *Samvad Purnachandrodaya*, of the 1st December, remarks that self-government has been introduced in every Province, and the Governor of every Province is trying to carry out the policy of Lord Ripon. But no one knows why Mr. Thompson is disappointing the people of Bengal in this matter. It appears that the Ilbert Bill is at the root of this. Last year, during his tour, the Lieutenant-Governor gave the people hopes about self-government. But this year there is no indication of it. The Lieutenant-Governor is unwilling to introduce self-government in these Provinces, and hence this delay. It was plainly hinted last year that the Bill would be passed during this cold season. But it is rumoured that a Commission will be established for this purpose this year. The object of the Commission does

not appear to be clear. Is it to enquire whether the Bengalis are fit for self-government?

21. The *Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 1st December, is glad to learn that Babu Krishna Vihari Sen has been appointed a non-official member of the Outstill Commission.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Dec. 1st, 1883.

22. The *Hálisahar Prakásiká*, of the 1st December, is glad to hear that Lord Ripon has proposed to raise the standard of age for the Civil Service Examination. The lowering of the standard of age has practically closed the Civil Service Examination to the young men of this country.

HALISAHAR
PRAKASHIKA,
Dec. 1st, 1883.

23. The same paper observes with regard to the reception of Lord Ripon at Calcutta that no other Viceroy was ever received with so much enthusiasm by all classes of natives, high and low.

HALISAHAR
PRAKASHIKA.

24. The *Sulabh Samáchar*, of the 1st December, hears from a correspondent at Tejpur the following story of the origin of the Ákás raids:—Babu Lakshmidhar Chowdri of Madopi, an Honorary Magistrate, was sent to fetch a pair of Ákás, male and female, for the Calcutta Exhibition. He had thirteen men with him. For a long time the Ákás had a grudge against him. So they captured him with all his followers. Then the King of the Ákás, with one hundred and twenty followers, came to capture Mr. Campbell, the officer in charge of the Forest Department. Unable to get him, they captured two Bengali writers, and plundered the market at Bali-para. Four or five shopkeepers were wounded. On the 12th of November, they released twelve of the followers of the Chowdri, because they used to lodge the Ákás in their houses when they came to *Namdani*. The real cause of these raids is revenue. For the collection of rubber, about one hundred people get licenses. They often go and tap trees in the Ákás territory. If they are discovered by the Ákás, they are instantly cut down, with nobody to take any notice of the fact. Another cause of the quarrel is the attempt to annex the Ákás frontier.

SULABHA SAMACHAR,
Dec. 1st, 1883.

25. The *Sanjibáni*, of the 1st December, says that it is foolish to think that all the zemindars of Bengal are opposed to the Bengal Tenancy Bill. There are very few opposed to it, except the members of the British Indian Association. Rájá Rajendra Narayan Deb, son of the late Sir Rájá Rádhákánta Deb Bahadur, wrote a letter to the meeting, composed of zemindars and Europeans, in support of the Bill, which the noble-minded President quietly suppressed. Every zemindar is not necessarily blind to the interests of others; there are zemindars who would gladly sacrifice their interests for the good of their raiyats.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 1st, 1883.

26. The same paper asks Lord Ripon to encourage mass education, to employ educated natives more extensively in the public service, and to treat them with respect. The writer is glad to hear that Lord Ripon is trying his best to raise the standard of age in the Civil Service Examination. He asks Lord Ripon if it is possible to abolish the Civil Service, the members of which are often opposed to the best interests of the country. The Lieutenant-Governor's conduct with reference to the introduction of the self-government scheme appears to be strange. If Lord Ripon can introduce that system in Bengal, he will leave an imperishable name in the country. It is not strange that the attention of Lord Ripon will be drawn to the wretched condition of the

SANJIVANI.

raiyat of the most fertile country in the world, whose poverty is due to the high-handed proceedings of bad men. They are so poor that they cannot feed and clothe themselves properly.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 1st, 1883.

27. The same paper gives the details of a case at Noakhali, in which the Magistrate and the Deputy Magistrate of the district suspended a pleader, causing a

great loss both to the pleader himself and his clients. The case came before the High Court, which has called for an explanation in connection with the action of the Magistrate and the Deputy Magistrate. The writer is anxious to know what steps Mr. Thompson will adopt to punish the Magistrates of Noakhali. Is there no way of putting an end to such high-handedness? Formerly people thought that the Magistrates had a divine right of oppressing the people. But public opinion has undergone a change of late.

BANGABASI,
Dec. 1st, 1883.

28. The *Bangabasi* accords a hearty welcome to Lord Ripon, the noble-minded Viceroy who has slowly put a stop to the Afghan war; repealed the

Vernacular Press Act; reduced the rate of tax on salt; introduced the Tenancy Bill and the Ilbert Bill; reduced the postal rates on newspapers; fought nobly with the Secretary of State on the question of throwing the burden of the Egyptian war on India; and who appointed a black Bengali to the Officiating Chief Justiceship of the High Court, and recorded resolutions to teach the natives self-help in matters of local management. The writer thinks that Ram has again become the King of India.

BAN GABASI.

29. The same paper says that the Bengal Tenancy Bill concedes to the raiyat the right of free sale, but unfortunately that right is restricted by the right

of pre-emption of the zemindar. But, asks the writer, if there be a difference of opinion between the zemindar and the raiyat as to the valuation of the tenancy, when the raiyat of his own motion wishes to sell his own right to the zemindar, who is to settle that difference? The Bill makes no provision for it. Perhaps the poor man, whom poverty and distress obliges to sell his holding, will have to go to the district head-quarters to apply to the Collector to prove his right by witnesses brought there at his own expense, and thus to spend beforehand what he expects to get by the sale. This will really nullify the right of free sale.

The raiyat will enjoy the land without eviction, without enhancement except on specified reasons, and his heir will be acknowledged as tenant; but why restrict the right of free sale? The zemindar says, he may sell the land to a hostile tenant. The expression "hostile tenant" has frightened Government. But who is this hostile tenant? And what is the amount and nature of his hostility? He can refuse to pay rent. But the Bill places so much facility in the way of realising the rent that no raiyat can put the zemindar into difficulty, and, again, the zemindar has no other pecuniary interest in the land except his rent. The patnidar can sell his tenure to any one, even to a hostile tenant, and the zemindar has not yet objected to it. Then why should he object to the free sale of the tenancy of a raiyat? In conclusion, the writer humbly begs the Government to consider that until the raiyat is granted the unrestricted right of sale, he will have no affection for the land, and will have no motive to improve it.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
Dec. 1st, 1883.

30. The *Grámvartá Prákásiká*, of the 1st December, says—"It is rumoured that Mr. Thompson, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, will soon apply for leave

on account of illness. It is not yet settled who will become the ruler of Bengal for the time. This is a fine opportunity! Perhaps, with such an opportunity, the one-and-a-half-legged Mr. Monro will ascend the throne of Bengal, and will have his heart's desires fulfilled.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
Dec. 1st, 1883.

31. The same paper says the way in which the outstill commission is constituted, and the way in which the Mofussil Magistrates have expressed their opinions, make people curious to know the object with which the Commission has been appointed. No one knows whether Government will lend its ears to the cry of the people. But the writer is afraid that it has been appointed to stop their mouths.

The Outstill Commission.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

32. The same paper contains an article headed "What are our grievances?" The Editor remarks that in spite of the material and outward prosperity enjoyed by the people of India under British rule, there has been very little political progress. The power of self-defence and self-government, and a sense of independence and self-respect, are signally wanting in the people. The British Government has disarmed the people and rendered them perfectly helpless. The passing of the Arms Act was a great political blunder. Confidence alone, and not distrust, can beget confidence. The Arms Act constitutes an indelible stain on the fame of the British Government. Government distrusts and disarms the people of India, whom it cannot certainly be its interest to keep disarmed. The people of India can never be faithless, and their sense of fidelity is of a higher order than that of the volunteers.

The grievances of the people of India.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Dec. 2nd, 1883.

33. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 2nd December, notices that the *Englishman* has accused the Editors of the vernacular newspapers of offering insults to Government. It writes an article quoting from the editorials of these papers, and remarks that the tone of the vernacular newspapers is very bad and reprehensible, and that steps should be taken on the subject. This sounds ludicrous, coming, as it does, from the hands of the Editor of the *Englishman*, who abuses Lord Ripon to his heart's content, instigates the planters to rebel, desires ill to Her Majesty's Empire, proposes to establish independent provincial governments with the aid of the Volunteers, and to establish conservative ascendancy in England by defeating the Liberals. It is ridiculous indeed for one who has many defects to be prying narrowly into the defects of one who has none. The Editor of the *Englishman* may think Mr. Thompson to be blameless, but there are others who cannot think him so in all his measures. When the planters at Cooch Behar refused to honour the toast of the Viceroy in his presence, the Lieutenant-Governor remained silent. The Anglo-Indians are so beloved of him that it is no wonder he will give them such indulgence. The *Englishman* boasts of the loyalty of these discourteous and wicked men, and becomes incensed with anger when anything is said against Mr. Thompson, who encourages them. Who is insulting the Government? These men, or the Bengalis? Wise men will conclude that the former are discontented with the Government.

Who offers insult to the Government?

SADHARANI,
Dec. 2nd, 1883.

34. The *Sadharani*, of the 2nd December, says that no other Viceroy was able to make so deep an impression on the hearts of the vast population of this vast Empire as Lord Ripon. He is determined to remove some of the glaring defects of the administration of this country, and hence he has to bear the abuses of a large number of low Europeans and Eurasians. He is anxious to rescue the raiyats of this country from the oppressions of the zemindars. He has encouraged the people of this country freely to express their opinions by repealing the Press Act. He has given his attention to the development of commerce and manufactures of the country. He is really a noble-hearted man, and desirous of doing good to the people. Why should not all Bengal dance with delight when such a ruler comes to the capital?

Lord Ripon.

SADHABANI,
Dec 1st, 1883.

35. The same paper says, those Englishmen who hold that the Indian Empire was obtained by the sword, and should

Loyalty.

be maintained with the sword, say on every occasion that the natives of India have no loyalty and desire the ruin of the Indian Empire. But this assertion is false and without foundation. It is against the history, the traditions and the nature of the Indian people. No other nation on earth is, or can be, so loyal as the people of India. They learn from their cradle that the king is God, and they believe it. The English do not understand this, and therefore distrust them, do not give them high appointments, do not consult them, do not give them proper judicial power, and do not allow them to bear arms. This is a matter of regret to the weak native, and a stain on the English name. No native desires the destruction of the Indian Empire, and if any does, he is an idiot. Lord Ripon has expressed his desire for adopting certain measures for the good of the country. But none of them has yet been carried out. Still the natives of India, fascinated by his nobleness, have become thoroughly attached to him. If the natives of India had really been disloyal, if they really desired to drive the English away, it would have been impossible for them to establish an empire, and carry out the work of administration over 250 millions of men. The English people should know that it is not their sword, but the unmeasured loyalty of the Indian people, that maintains the Empire.

SADHABANI.

36. The same paper says that the opening of the railways have contributed to the development of the resources of the country ; but it has done some serious

Railway.

mischiefs too. It has made the country unhealthy. Malaria appeared in the country two years after the opening of the railway from Howrah to Raniganj, and, with the extension of the railway system, the range of malaria is ever on the increase.

SADHABANI.

37. The same paper remarks that the reduction of the travelling allowance of the educational officers in the Chutia Nagpur Division will probably interfere

Travelling allowance.

with the inspection work in that Division. Sometimes for want of proper conveyance the Assistant Inspector has to halt for two or three days, having nothing to do. His salary for those two or three days is a loss to the revenue. But if a few annas be added to his travelling allowance, he may not have so to halt. Under these circumstances, the writer asks the Government to reconsider the question of the rate of travelling allowance of the Assistant Inspector of Chutia Nagpur.

SADHABANI.

38. The same paper says that it has in previous issues shewn the inconveniences of the Editors of vernacular papers in not being furnished with copies of

The Report on the Native Papers.

the Report on the native papers. The writer was sorry that Editors of native papers are so idle that they did not take up the idea. He now proposes that the *Bangabasi* should take the lead, and call a meeting of all the Editors of the vernacular papers to decide what steps should be taken to obtain this end.

SAMAYA,
Dec 3rd 1883.

39. The *Samaya*, of the 3rd December, warns the Government against the impolicy of throwing the burden of maintaining schools on the people. In that case

The Education Commission.

the cause of education will greatly suffer in this unfortunate country. Nothing can be done without money. The Commission admits that in France, in Germany, in Denmark, in Sweden and in Austria, provision is made for educating children free of cost. The revenue of these countries is not larger than that of India. The revenue of France is 70 crores, and

the educational expenditure three crores. The revenue of Austria is 60 crores, and the educational expenditure $1\frac{1}{2}$ crores. Germany, with a revenue of 45 crores, spends $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores for education. Belgium, with a revenue of 11 crores, spends 50 lakhs for the same purpose; while Denmark, with $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores for income, spends 6 lakhs for it. India, with a revenue of 68 crores, spends 60 lakhs only. The average income of an Englishman is Rs. 400, of a Frenchman Rs. 280, of a Portuguese Rs. 100, and even in the Turkish Empire the average income of its inhabitants is Rs. 50. But the average income of a native of India is only Rs. 27. How can Government then desire that the people of India should bear the cost of educating their children?

40. The same paper observes that to institute a suit for the recovery of Rs. 19, a man will have to spend Rs. 31

Law and justice.

at the least, and if he is not very clever, he will have to spend Rs. 41, and even more. But he cannot recover more than Rs. 8 as cost. The Stamp Law has become so burdensome that the plaintiff finds it very hard to institute a suit to the value of Rs. 1,000. In many instances people cannot recover their legal dues for the cost. It would have been much better if there had been a provision in the law that the plaintiff will have to pay a fixed amount for every suit. No administration can be well conducted if the Government becomes so exacting in the matter of the dispensation of justice. Government should be just and merciful, and at the same time it should be vigilant.

41. The same paper says that section 7 of the Rent Bill provides for a survey and registration of the khamar and the rayati land. But, says the writer, the survey

The Rent Bill.

should be conducted by the Collector or by officers vested with the powers of Collectors, and not by any one authorized by the Collectors to do so. The raiyats are ignorant, and if any one, with the authority of the Collector, conduct the survey, the zemindars will find ample opportunity of fraudulently increasing their khamar land.

The restrictions provided in the Bill on the sale of permanent right will be of no use to the raiyat. The seller will have to apply to the Collector, and his expense will commence from this time. If this rule is enacted, it will unnecessarily increase litigation in those places where the custom of such sale prevails. So the writer recommends that section 51 of the Bill be withdrawn.

Section 72 provides that the cost of ascertaining the parganá rate is to be defrayed by the zemindar and the permanent raiyat. The writer asks, why should the raiyat pay? If the rate exceeds the raiyat's rent, the raiyat will have to pay the excess; but if it is less than the rent, the raiyat shall not be able to claim reduction. Then why should the raiyat pay?

Section 207 opens a wide door to litigation. It provides that the zemindar will be able to sue the raiyat in the Civil Court to ascertain the quantity of his land, the rate of his rent, and the rights which he possesses. A civil suit is a terrible affair, and especially with a zemindar who has so many facilities for conducting a suit.

42. The same paper enumerates some instances of magisterial high-handedness in Eastern Bengal during the course of this year. Almost every week brings some case

Magisterial vagaries.

or other to the notice of the public. The people of the mofussil have not yet learnt how to put a stop to these oppressions, and so they silently bear them. Sometimes a case or two comes to the notice of the public. But the Lieutenant-Governor, who is fond of civilians, looks indifferently on them, and these mofussil civilians are rather over-acting themselves. There

SAMAYA,
Dec. 1st, 1883.

SAMAYA.

SAMAYA.

is no hope of good government until the custom of raising civilians to Lieutenant-Governorship is abolished. They become Governors when they are old. They lose the vigour of their intellect, and become tools in the hands of their advisers. Mr. Thompson is the oldest of the civilians, and unable to conduct the administration, so the civilians oppress the people just as they like. There is no remedy for it. If a native deputy had suspended a European pleader, he would certainly have been dismissed and fined.

SAMATA.

43. The same paper says:—It is rumoured that the Lieutenant-Governor will apply for leave on account of ill health. We earnestly request him to

Mr. Thompson.

retire, to go back to the home of his parents, and enjoy a long life in peace and prosperity. We have no objection to that, let this unfortunate country enjoy peace. He has given sufficient proof of his abilities as a Governor. No more.

SURABHI,
Dec. 3rd, 1883.

44. The *Surabhi*, of the 3rd December, says:—No other Governor-General was welcomed with so much enthusiasm as Lord Ripon, and it is doubtful whether any Governor-General will receive such hearty welcome in future.

Lord Ripon.

The whole of the Town and the Suburbs were illuminated at night. High and low, from Members of the Council to common shop-keepers, decorated their houses with rows of light.

SURABHI.

45. The same paper declares itself to be an advocate of the raiyat, but at the same time it does not like to see the zemindar class ruined. The zemindars

The Tenancy Bill.

have done many acts of public utility. The writer thinks it desirable that there should be an intermediate class between the Government and the raiyat, for it helps to mitigate the high-handedness of Government.

SURABHI.

46. The same paper praises Mr. Reynolds for his letter to the *Englishman*, rebuking the meanness and want of discretion of the opponents of the Ilbert

Mr. Reynolds.

Bill. The writer wishes that the number of Englishmen of Mr. Reynolds' type should increase, and asks the India Club, which has been started with a view to promote friendly feeling between natives and Europeans, to take steps that educated natives can mix freely with Englishmen like Mr. Ilbert, Mr. Gibbs, Mr. Hume, Mr. Reynolds.

SOM PRAKASH,
Dec. 3rd, 1883.

47. The *Somprakash*, of the 3rd December, says that the Public Works Department and the Military Departments are like oceans. They engulf a very large part of the income of the State. If any one

The negligence of India Government.

saves a fourth of his income, he never finds himself involved in debt. Such is the case with Governments also. But the Government which spends whatever it receives cannot be free from debts. The Indian Government is exactly in this position, and the principal cause of its difficulty is the prejudice that the work of administration cannot be conducted without European officers. If they employ natives more extensively, much might be saved. The Government has publicly pledged itself to the policy of more extensive employment of natives, but that pledge has not yet been redeemed. Mr. Cotton says that the work of administration can be much better managed by experienced natives of this country than by beardless youths from Europe. Where an incompetent European is employed, the burden of the work falls upon the native deputy. The natives form the backbone of the Government. They do all the work.

SOM PRAKASH.

48. The same paper says that the Anglo-Indians are dissatisfied with the administration of Lord Ripon, while the natives of India do not like to see the Conservatives in power. The natives can show their discontent

Proposal of reform.

only with cries of agony. But the Anglo-Indians show it in a different way. The writer infers that the Anglo-Indians will one day rise against the Liberal Government and make war with the people of India. So the writer suggests the following administrative reforms:—*1st*, the appointment of the Governor-General be abolished, and the Secretary of State assume the Government in his own hands. He will not be influenced by the opinions of bad advisers; *2ndly*, the Provincial Governors are to be appointed directly from England, and that the Provincial Governors and the Secretary of State should always be chosen from the Liberal party. They should be experienced in Indian affairs, and their liberal principles are to be tested by their work.

49. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 3rd December, observes that the

NAVAVIBHAKAR.
Dec. 3rd, 1883.

Mr. Thompson on the license tax.

manner in which the Lieutenant-Governor has sought to advocate the continuance of the license tax really excites surprise. The fact is self-interest is a dangerous thing, and the authorities have had recourse to fallacious reasoning out of interested motives. Government wants money, and this money must be anyhow raised from the people. This is the real argument of the authorities—an argument which has been made use of to defend the outstill system as well as the license tax. According to the Lieutenant-Governor, with the exception of those who pay, and of those who fear that they may be required to pay, the license tax, all others are perfectly indifferent to this tax. Now, last year nearly seventy thousand people had to pay this tax, and if another seventy thousand were supposed to have lived in fear of it, then, according to the showing of the Lieutenant-Governor, it must be admitted that nearly one-and-a-half lakhs of men were last year dissatisfied with the license tax? His Honor does not in the least seem to mind the dissatisfaction of these one-and-a-half lakhs of men. From sixty to sixty-five millions of men own his sway; what matters it if, among this large population, a hundred thousand or a hundred and fifty thousand men are dissatisfied? But the dissatisfaction of twenty thousand non-military Europeans matters much. Indeed, it is such a grave matter that the Lieutenant-Governor, through fear of that dissatisfaction, has even quarrelled with his official superior, the Viceroy. Mr. Thompson, who loves the people so much, may not consider the dissatisfaction of a hundred and fifty thousand Bengalis, Beharies, and Uriyas as of any consequence; but if an equal number of dissatisfied people were found in each of the Provinces of the Punjab, Bombay, Madras, &c., would the matter be still considered of no consequence? Again, it is not unreasonable to suppose that the number of the dissatisfied will go on increasing, inasmuch as under British rule trade will receive a stimulus. Mr. Thompson may not fear the dissatisfaction of Bengalis, Beharies, and Uriyas; but perhaps the Lieutenant-Governors of other Provinces are not equally free from this fear. One argument adduced by the Lieutenant-Governor in favour of the retention of the license tax is that the people are gradually growing accustomed to it. This is a dangerous argument. Bengalis have ever been known to silently and patiently submit to oppression. So much patience do they possess that whenever any oppressive tax is imposed, they protest against it for some days, and then silently submit to it. Knowing this disposition of Bengalis, Mr. Thompson advocates the continuance of the license tax. But if this tax is retained simply because Bengalis have submitted to it, then even the most odious tax will not perhaps be considered unsuitable to Bengalis. Mr. Thompson is teaching a dangerous lesson to the people. The writer concludes by dwelling upon the unsuitableness of direct taxation to the circumstances of this country.

50. In an article reviewing the operations of the license tax last year, the same paper condemns the tendency on the part of the superior officials to find fault with

The license tax.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

the assessors and tax-collectors if the proceeds of the tax become small. The effect of this is that the assessors seek more to keep the higher officials in good humour than to do their work conscientiously. People are assessed with the tax without any inspection of their accounts or their representations being listened to.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

51. The same paper remarks that, like Satan, who, failing to successfully cope with the Almighty, through guile,

Alliance between zemindars and members of the Defence Association.

seduced man, the beloved of Him, from the path of righteousness—the European Defence Association, failing to cope with Lord Ripon, have sought, through guile, to bring over the leaders of the British Indian Association in Bengal to their ranks. Their efforts were manifest in the meeting of the zemindars held at the Town Hall a fortnight before the arrival of Lord Ripon at Calcutta, and on the day of His Excellency's reception. On that day Calcutta was illuminated in honour of Lord Ripon's return. It was only the members of the Defence Association, who live in Chowringhee, and their followers in Chunam Gully, who sat in darkness and showed their ill will towards the Viceroy. What is to be regretted is that Kansaripara, Chorebagan, and Patturiaghata followed the example of Chunam Gully. The white and the black Tagores, Malliks, Pals, and other big folks living in these wards, have this time clearly shown that the light which they possessed as leading men in native society has been extinguished for ever. Or it may be that, filled with shame for their shameless conduct in the Town Hall, they sought the protection of darkness in order to hide their faces from the public gaze.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

52. The same paper makes the following observations in an editorial paragraph :—The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* has given a good proof of the humorous disposition of the Lieutenant-Governor. At the dinner

Mr. Thompson's speech at Cooch Behar.

given on the occasion of the installation of the Maharajah of Cooch Behar, His Honor indulged in a little speech-making, in the course of which he said that the education which the Maharajah had received was much better than that which taught Bengali school-boys to throw brickbats at the police, and revolutionise the Government. If Mr. Thompson has said this in earnest, he has indeed well requited the hospitality of the Maharajah. The Maharajah gave His Honor a dinner, and regaled him with dancing and festivities, and he in return has pronounced him a little better than bad boys. But if the Lieutenant-Governor said all this in jest, he has given encouragement to those Civilian Magistrates who flog boys. The beauty of the remark is, take it in what sense you like, you perceive the endless good qualities of the Lieutenant-Governor. When the Maharajah proposed the toast of Lord Ripon, some of the planters who were present cried shame. The Lieutenant-Governor by his silence approved of this conduct. This showed his uncommon loyalty."

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

53. The same paper has heard with regret that, just before Lord

Lord Ripon's reception at Howrah.

Ripon's arrival at the Howrah station, the police acted very rudely towards many gentlemen present there. It is said that the station-master did not allow a respectable pleader of the High Court, and two Subordinate Judges, to remain on the platform. The little-minded European station-master did all he could to avenge himself on Bengali Baboos on account of the Ilbert Bill. Had the day not been one for great rejoicings, there would have occurred serious breaches of the peace.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

54. The same paper writes the following in an editorial paragraph :—

Mr. Thompson.

The Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. Thompson, has lost the respect and esteem of the natives. Disappointed to see his bad administrative policy, they are reproaching him

as much as he deserves. Even the *Hindu Patriot* has ceased to take his brief; but that matters little to Mr. Thompson. He need have no anxiety so long as he continues to be the patron of the opponents of the Ilbert Bill. The *Englishman* will continue to plead for him to the best of his ability. Our Hare Street contemporary is not able to find any good qualities in Mr. Thompson, which he may extol; consequently he is seeking to protect His Honor against the attacks of native newspapers. The strictures passed against His Honor in native newspapers have been translated, and the *Englishman* says that they are such as are very likely to excite disaffection among the people and that therefore it has become necessary to stop these newspapers. Now we ask the *Englishman*, when it has even some sense left it—if it be proper to punish a paper which censures the Lieutenant-Governor, by stopping its publication, is transportation a sufficient punishment for an editor who recklessly abuses the Viceroy?

55. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 3rd December, contains an article headed "Lord Ripon and selfish zemindars." The Editor remarks that he is not an

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Dec. 3rd, 1883.

opponent of the zemindars; on the contrary, he believes that with the downfall of the zemindars the country will be a loser. The Bengal ryot may have many grievances, but owing to the existence of the Permanent Settlement and a class of zemindars he is the happiest of all ryots in British India. The ryots of the Government khas mehals are worse off. However high-minded the zemindars may be, they have still the fear of law and the police, a fear from which khas mehal officers are free. The zemindars need protection, inasmuch as if they cease to exist as a class the large profits from land which they now enjoy and spend in the country will go to enrich the Government, that is Englishmen in England. With the decline of the zemindars, the country will be impoverished. This class deserves protection for various reasons; and the man who desires their fall is either an enemy to his country or is singularly lacking in political foresight. But the zemindars, it is to be feared, will fall through their own fault. They have, through their own fault, made the ryots and the educated classes their enemies, and now perhaps they are about to court their own ruin. The tactics employed by certain selfish zemindars in connection with the Rent Bill will perhaps make it necessary either for Lord Ripon to pass that measure into law, or to have it made law by Parliament. But if the people of India come to learn that with a view to obtain a recall of Lord Ripon the zemindars of Bengal have made an alliance with Anglo-Indians, the great enemies of this country, they will to a man stand up against the zemindars, and ask Lord Ripon to pass the Rent Bill. In that case the Bill will become law, all opposition notwithstanding.

56. The same paper regrets to notice that the advice given by the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds in connection with the Ilbert Bill has had no effect on the *Englishman*.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

The Editor observes that though but little now remains of the Ilbert Bill as it was originally introduced into the Legislative Council, though the provisions regarding the appointment of Justices of the Peace remain unaltered, and though the Queen's Proclamation will not be fully given effect to in the modifications which have been proposed in the Bill, still the native community will not object to receive the Bill in its proposed shape, if Lord Ripon can thus please the Europeans. But they have not been satisfied.

57. The same paper regrets to notice that certain self-styled leaders of native society, namely, the Maharajah Jatendra Mohun Tagore, Maharajah Narendra Krishna, Baboo Kristo Das Pal, and a few others belonging to their party did not illuminate their houses in honour of Lord Ripon's return to Calcutta, while

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

PRABHATI,
Dec. 3rd, 1883.

even those who live from hand to mouth lighted their houses. The former have acted as enemies of Bengalis, and have forfeited the confidence of Bengalis.

58. The *Prabhati*, of the 3rd December, says Mr. Lemondine of the Calcutta Police was employed with a number of constables at the cross road at Beadon Park to see that no accident happened on the last day of the poojah when the streets were greatly crowded. A boy of about 18, named Baboo Charu Chandra Matilál, was sitting on the coach-box of a carriage. Mr. Lemondine brought a charge against him for furious driving, assaulting a public officer, and obstructing a public officer in the execution of his duties. The case came up before the Honorary Magistrates Baboos Gopal Lal Mitra and Shyam Chand Mitra. They have dismissed the case. They did not believe the evidence of the constables which they considered to be false. Thus, Mr. Lemondine has insulted a gentleman and treated him with inhuman cruelty. No body knows what punishment Mr. Lemondine is to receive for this offence. If he is allowed to go with impunity, the police will never hesitate to oppress the people to their heart's content.

59. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 4th December, supports the Bengal Tenancy Bill, and observes that if that measure becomes law, a few persons may suffer a little temporary inconvenience, but in the long run it will prove beneficial. A measure which confers upon the tenant an abiding interest in the soil cannot but benefit the country.

60. The same paper complains that natives are excluded from all superior offices in the public service which are monopolized by Europeans. The Army is, as a career, closed to them. The case is the same with the Forest, the Public Works, the Telegraph, the Survey, the Mint and other departments. The lowering of the limit of age has had the effect of excluding natives from the Covenanted Civil Service, while the "Native Civil Service" is reserved for scions of noble families. In this respect the English policy in India is opposite to that of other conquering races, such as the Romans and the Moghuls in India.

61. The *Prajábandhu*, of the 4th December, thus enumerates the evils of the Permanent Settlement: first, the zemindars who were kind to their ryots have lost their estates owing to the operation of the sunset law. Second, Government has shown the way to resumption proceedings, and the zemindars have followed suit. This has lead the way to the extension of the class of jotedars. Third, the introduction of the Permanent Settlement has had the effect of making Bengalis listless and apathetic. One who has only tasted the sweets of land lordism does not care to engage in trade or any other independent profession.

62. The *Sahachar*, of the 5th December, has been printed in golden ink, and bears on its title page the words "Long live our Noble Viceroy" and "Welcome to their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught." The Editor dwells upon the well deserved popularity of Lord Ripon, and the loyalty of the people of India to the British Government.

63. The *Shakti*, of the 7th December, regrets to notice that while Government has expressed its willingness to make arrangements for the technical education of twelve European and Eurasian lads, nothing is intended to be done for native lads in the same direction.

64. The same paper is glad to notice that Mr. Thompson refused the prayer of the Calcutta Volunteers to escort him from the Howrah station on the occasion of his return from Cooch Behar. What wise man would act otherwise,

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Dec. 4th, 1883.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

PRAJABANDHU,
Dec. 4th, 1883.

SAHACHAR,
Dec. 5th, 1883.

SHAKTI,
Dec. 7th, 1883.

SHAKTI.

considering that these same volunteers had refused to furnish a guard-of-honour to the Viceroy?

65. The same paper contains an article on the Rent Bill. The Editor

SHAKTI.

The Rent Bill.

considers the argument that the Permanent Settlement should be maintained at all costs as untenable, and holds with John Stuart Mill that "the State is at liberty to discard landowners. The claim of the landowners to the land is altogether subordinate to the general policy of the State." The zemindars, however, "should not be dispossessed of their property without receiving its pecuniary value, or an annual income equal to what they derived from it."

66. The *Uchit Baktá*, of the 24th November, contains a poem to which

UCHIT BAKTA,
Nov. 24th, 1883.

A poem.

reference was made in our last report, which expresses in a number of couplets the cherished desires of a large number of people, such, for instance, as the vakeel, the priest, the native rájá, the indolent man, the Hindu widow, &c., &c. Lord Ripon's desire is represented to be to see the Government freed from all stain on its good name, and the rulers and the ruled made happy. The Anglo-Indians desire, it is said, to keep natives under their feet, to see them deprived of all wealth and English policy remain an incomprehensible thing. The burning desire of Eurasians is that their black complexion may disappear.

67. The *Sar Súdhanidhi*, of the 3rd December, condemns the Calcutta Volunteers as disloyal, and asks Lord Ripon to raise a corps of native volunteers.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
Dec. 3rd, 1883.

The volunteers.

68. The *Utkal Darpan*, of the 18th November, after giving a short account of Act No. XIX of 1883, namely an Act to consolidate and amend the law

UTKAL DARPAN,
Nov. 18th, 1883.

Agricultural loans.

relating to loans of money by the Government for agricultural improvements, insinuates that "the Government anticipating the objections of the zemindars to the Bengal Tenancy Bill has been careful enough to enact this measure with the object of protecting the ryots."

69. The *Samvad Bahika*, of the 22nd November, gives a short account of arrangements made in connection

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
Nov. 22nd, 1883.

The International Exhibition.

with the coming International Exhibition, and remarks that this is the largest and most important of all the exhibitions held in India up to date.

The apprehended scarcity.

70. The *Utkal Darpan*, of the 18th November, writes a long article on famine,

UTKAL DARPAN,
Nov. 18th, 1883.

in which the following occurs:—

"The famine is nigh at hand. Government has simply depended on official reports. In our opinion Government ought to take measures to protect the people from the impending calamity.

"We have not sufficient space at our disposal to discuss properly the causes that constantly bring about famines under the administration of the British Government. From a careful observation of the increase of population caused by early marriage, of the manner of England's sucking India's blood, of India's poverty caused by the extravagance of Government, of zemindars' oppression on ryots in particular places, of India's listlessness and inactivity arising from her subject condition, and of want of improvement in the mode of cultivation and other evils arising therefrom, we are led to conclude that want of rain is not the only cause of famine. Want of rain may be the principal cause, but it could not have been felt had the other causes been absent. Had wealth been commonly distributed among the people in general, they would not have been now under the necessity of looking up to Government for support. The example of England and Ireland will illustrate our statement. England is always free from the evil effects of famine, but Ireland is still subject to frequent recurrences of famine.

"The people of India are innocent and simple. Consequently, they attribute all their calamities to their gods. But we say that the people and the Government are to blame to a certain extent.

"However, we hope that under Lord Ripon's government they ought not to remain satisfied with big reports, but proceed to act at once.

"We request the rich people in Orissa to rouse themselves from their lethargy and take particular steps in time to save their poor fellow-brethren from starvation.

"Bad days are in store for Orissa. It behoves Government to suspend for some time the progress of the Bengal Tenancy Bill in the Legislative Council, and thereby put a stop, at least for a few months, to the irritated feelings in the minds both of the zemindars and the ryots, which no doubt the passing of the Bill will cause."

PURUSOTTAM PATRIKA,
Nov. 19th, 1883.

71. The *Purusottam Patrika*, of the 19th November, writes the following in connection with the rise in the price of rice in Pooree:—

Price of rice in Pooree.

"Though the state of the crops in this district is not as bad as in the others, still the price of rice is rising day after day on account of the great demand of that staple kept up by a certain number of rice merchants. The price of rice will rise still more, inasmuch as the merchants have begun so early as this to collect it in large quantities. This will, no doubt, put the poor, as also those who make daily purchases of that article, to great difficulty. We therefore advise Government officers to see that the merchants do not carry off rice from this place."

SAMBAD BAHIKA,
Nov. 22nd, 1883.

72. The *Samvad Bahika*, of the 22nd November, writes the following on the same subject:—The cultivating classes are now in a position to gauge the extent of loss of the crops; those who had expected a 10-anna crop now find that even an 8-anna one will hardly be reaped. Those again who had expected an 8-anna crop now doubt whether they will really be able to reap even a 6-anna one. Again, the rice that is being prepared from the new paddy seems to be in an undeveloped state. Consequently, when cooked, the rice does not increase in quantity. The cultivating classes now feel the perilous position in which they are placed. We affirm that not more than a 6-anna crop has been reaped on an average throughout the whole district.

Even now when the country is in a perilous condition, export of rice is going on as usual. The Midnapore men have come with their carts as far as Basta to purchase rice. They are there purchasing rice, not properly husked, at the rate of Rs. 1-4 per maund. There is no doubt that within a short period the people of Midnapore, as also those of the northern part of this district, will come as far as Balasore to purchase paddy and rice.

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Even newspaper editors are not yet fully aware of the immensity of the calamity that is coming nearer day by day. Unless the miseries and sorrows of the people are made fully known, the outside public will not be in a position to judge correctly of their nature and extent.

SAMBAD BAHIKA.

State of the crops in Baliapal.
a deplorable condition.

73. A correspondent of the same paper writes that the crops in thana Baliapal are in

74. Almost all the papers in the Province express their regret at the departure of Mr. Smith on the 20th of the current month, and speak very highly of his services during the period he was in charge of the division.

Mr. Smith, the Commissioner.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 8th December 1883.